

Appn. Number 09/031,578 (Blume) GAU 3736 Amnt. contd.

Page 24, reference numeral 16, after "article for measuring" insert --unused--.

Page 25, first paragraph, fifth-sixth line down, after "process of gargling with a specified" insert --sampling--.

Page 25, first paragraph, sixth line down, change "resulting fluid" to --retrieved sampling liquid 10--.

**CLAIMS:** Cancel all claims of record and substitute new Claims 40 through 52 as follows.

40. A method for obtaining and analyzing a liquid sample for diagnosis of a condition of interest of the pharynx of a human, comprising:

- (a) having said human gargle with a measured amount of a fully characterized sampling liquid, causing said sampling liquid to be in contact with the lower aspects of the pharynx of said human;
- (b) retrieving said sampling liquid for analysis by having said human tilt the head down over a collection container, opening the mouth, and allowing the sampling liquid to exit the open mouth, via gravity, directly into the collection container; and
- (c) at the time of said retrieving, analyzing said retrieved sampling liquid in said collection container for the condition of interest,

whereby the potential for contamination of said sampling liquid by contents of the oral cavity or mouth is minimized, whereby said analysis is performed without transfer of said liquid sample from said collection container, and whereby said analysis provides rapid results.